

Analysis
Domestic Violence Recidivism
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Quantitative:

The basis for completing this project is based on a theory that there is domestic violence recidivism because subjects are not taking advantage of the services available. There may be several reasons why subjects do not receive services and may include a fear for their own safety. However, the basis for this theory was unfounded in this research. Throughout this analysis, an explanation of the results from each variable will be discussed and how the variables related to the Quantitative Question. Opinions will also be given about surprises that surfaced and ideas why some results gave certain answers.

Out of 510 reported cases, 166 subjects were chosen to complete this study. All of these subjects had their first report of domestic violence documented between January 1, 1999 and June 30, 1999. All reports following the first incident were pulled, as well as the first report to gather data.

Demographic information played a key role in the quantitative piece of this study. Although all charts did not give all demographic information of a subject, great insight was gained from what could be obtained. The gender identity of each subject was pulled from each chart. The results of the 166 cases pulled indicated that almost one-fourth of this population was male. This may be due to the fact that often DCBS will take "dual" referrals on a couple. This means that each person in the relationship is seen as both a subject and a perpetrator; however, they are entered into their own case numbers. The percent of male subjects in this population was 24.7%. This was surprising because male victimization is downplayed in society. Males are often looked at as domineering figures and often do not wish to be seen as a subject. This results in fewer reports from male subjects. In reality, statistics may be biased because society may not be aware of a more accurate number of male subjects. The percent of female subjects in this population was 75.3%. This is a low percent for a nationwide statistic and may be explained along with the high percentage of male subjects.

Determining whether or not the subject received services was the goal for this study. Out of the 166 subjects chosen, it was extremely interesting to note that

exactly 50% received services and 50% did not receive services. This was not expected considering the theory was that there would be fewer services received.

The mean age of the subject was 30.75. This was not a great surprise. DCBS works with a great population that ranges in both gender and age. Another surprise was the percentages of marital status. Exactly 50% of subjects were married, 30.7% were single, 2.4% were separated, 3% were divorced, and the marital status of 13.9% was unknown. This means that 50% of subjects were living with the alleged perpetrator and were not married as opposed to 50% who were married to the alleged perpetrator. Criteria for accepting a Domestic Violence referral are that they either are married (living together or not) and/or they are living together. In reality, it may be hard to tell if all subjects were in fact living with the alleged perpetrator. Also, 13.9% is a high number for unknown marital status. This may be in part because subjects did not have to speak to a DCBS worker and the worker was unable to tell the subject's marital status through the paperwork he/she received.

The source of the referrals received consisted of several different identities. The largest percentage came from law enforcement at 76.5%. Others included the Spouse

Abuse Shelter at 16.9%, the subject themselves at 1.8%, the hospital at 1.2%, the local Community Mental Health Center at 0.6%, the local Health Department at 0.6%, anonymous calls at 0.6%, and others (in a separate category for those not listed) at 1.8%. The numbers were not surprising due to the large number of domestic calls that law enforcement officers receive. A reason for the Spouse Abuse percentage to be so low is that the majority of referrals that come in do come from law enforcement and if a subject goes to the shelter as a result of the incident, DCBS is already aware of the incident and has been notified by law enforcement. This is also true for other low percentages.

The reasons for services not being received were grouped into four categories including: services were received (50%), the worker was unable to locate the subject (38.6%), the subject refused to cooperate with the worker or be interviewed (10.8%), and the subject was deceased (0.6%). The number of subjects who could not be located was not surprising due the subjects' right to self-determination. They have the right not to respond to a worker's attempt to contact them and thus will in a sense "hide" from the worker by not calling or setting up an appointment to meet with the worker. It could not be determined if some of the unable to locate subjects were

actually subjects who were refusing to cooperate. Upon grouping the reasons, the category deceased was not originally chosen. Upon investigation, it was discovered that one subject out of all 166 was deceased and was unable to receive services. It could not be determined if the subject's death was a result of the abuse. Also, it was interesting to discover that this subject was one of the forty-one male subjects.

The results of the last known referral for each subject were compiled. Unsubstantiated referrals consisted of 18.1%, Substantiated referrals consisted of 30.7%, some indication referrals consisted of 16.3%, Found and substantiated referrals consisted of 34.3%, and unable to locate referrals consisted of 0.6%. The number of some indication results was inconsistent with the reasons for not receiving services. This may be due to the worker receiving information that there was some violence in an incident. Often police reports and Emergency Protective Orders will indicate that there was violence by documenting injuries and stating what was seen at the home. A worker can choose some indication based on the information provided by law enforcement. Found and substantiated means that allegations of domestic violence may not be what originally were given to the worker, but they may have

discovered this upon investigation. For example, if a worker is investigating allegations of child abuse and neglect, they may find domestic violence in the home and can substantiate domestic violence based on what they found. This means that 81.3% of the cases showed some violence in the home.

The number of referrals for each subject was surprising due to the theory that several subjects often have more than one referral. Out of 166 subjects, 80.7% had one referral, 15.7% had two referrals, 2.4% had three referrals, and 1.2% had four referrals. The number of referrals did not go above four.

The race of the subject was also a surprise. Out of 166 subjects, 86.7% were White, 1.2% were Hispanic, 10.2% were Black, 0.6% were Asian or Pacific Islander, and in 1.2% of the cases, the race of the subject was not known. It is interesting that the numbers range very far apart compared to national statistics. This may be that other cultures teach that family affairs should not be discussed with those outside of the family. Also, over 90% of the population of people in Owensboro and Daviess County, KY (where the data was collected) are White or Caucasian. An interesting note is that all Hispanic subjects were male. Research could not be found to explain this result.

Sixteen different crosstabs were run on the variables. The gender of the subject and the marital status were combined to show that out of the female population, 42 were single, 61 were married, 2 were separated, 4 were divorced, and sixteen were unknown. From the male population, 9 were single, 22 were married, 2 were separated, 1 was divorced, and seven were unknown. This combined to 166 subjects.

The gender of the subject and the number of referrals were combined to show that of the female population, 98 had one referral, 21 had two referrals, 4 had three referrals, and two had four referrals. From the male population, 36 had one referral, 5 had two referrals, and no males had three or four referrals. Again, this may result from the lack of reporting on male subjects.

The gender and race of the subject were crosstabulated to show that of the female population, 110 were White, 0 were Hispanic, 12 were Black, one was an Asian or Pacific Islander, and 2 the races were not reported. Of the male population, 34 were White, 2 were Hispanic, 5 were Black, 0 were Asian or Pacific Islander, and 0 were not reported. Again, it is common for there to be more White females than other races and males. This may be due to the fact that more women than men report and some cultures choose not to involve others in family affairs.

The gender of the subject and the reasons for not receiving services was crosstabulated to see if there was a relationship between the two. The results showed that of the female population, 65 received services, 44 were unable to locate, and 16 refused to cooperate or be interviewed. Of the male population, 18 received services, 20 were unable to locate, 2 refused to cooperate or be interviewed, and one was deceased.

The gender of the subject and the result of the last referral was crosstabulated to determine if there was a relationship. The crosstab showed that of the female population, 26 referrals were unsubstantiated, 42 were substantiated, 17 showed some indication, 39 were found and substantiated, and one was unable to locate. Of the male population, 4 were unsubstantiated, 9 were substantiated, 10 showed some indication, 18 were found and substantiated, and 0 were unable to locate. Of both genders, there were more substantiated than unsubstantiated referrals.

The gender of the subject and the determination of services received were crosstabulated. Of the female population, 59 did not receive services and 66 did receive services. Of the male population, 24 did not receive services and 17 did receive services. It could not be determined if there was a relationship.

The gender of the subject and the source of the referral were crosstabulated to determine if there was a relationship. Of the female population, one referral came from hospital personnel, 91 came from law enforcement, one came from the Community Mental Health Center, one came from the County or District or Health Department, two came from the subjects themselves, 27 came from the Spouse Abuse Shelter, one was anonymous, and one came from other agencies not mentioned. Of the male population, one came from hospital personnel, 36 came from law enforcement, zero came from the Community Mental Health Center, zero came from the County or District Health Department, one came from the subject himself, one came from the Spouse Abuse Shelter, zero were anonymous, and two came from other agencies not mentioned. It was interesting to note that a referral was turned in on a male subject from the Spouse Abuse Shelter considering since the majority of subjects the shelter works with are female.

The marital status of the subjects and the number of referrals each subject had were crosstabulated to determine if there was a relationship. Of the single population, 40 had one referral, nine had two referrals, one had three referrals, and one had four referrals. There were a total of 51 referrals for the single population. Of the married

population, 65 had one referral, 14 had two referrals, three had three referrals, and one had four referrals. There were a total of 83 referrals for the married population. Of the separated population, there were only four subjects and each subject had only one referral. Of the divorced population, there were only five subjects and each subject had only one referral. Of the unknown population, 20 had one referral and three had two referrals, for a total of 23 referrals for this population.

The marital status and race of the subjects was crosstabulated. Of the single population, 44 were White, one was Hispanic, and six were Black. Of the married population, 73 were White, one was Hispanic, seven were black, and two were not reported. Of the separated population there were only four subjects and all four were White. Of the divorced population, there were only five subjects and all five were White. Of the unknown population, 18 were White, four were Black, and one was Asian or Pacific Islander.

The marital status of the subjects and the reasons for not receiving services were crosstabulated. Of the single population, 37 received services, eight were unable to locate, and six refused to cooperate or be interviewed. Of the married population, 39 received services, 34 were

unable to locate, nine refused to cooperate or be interviewed, and one was deceased. Of the separated population, three received services and one was unable to locate. Of the divorced population, four received services and one was unable to locate. Of the unknown population, 20 were unable to locate and three refused to cooperate or be interviewed.

The marital status of the subject and whether or not the subject received services was crosstabulated. Of the single population, 14 did not receive services and 37 did receive services. Of the married population, 44 did not receive services and 39 did receive services. Of the separated population, one did not receive services and three did receive services. Of the divorced population, one received services and four did not receive services. Of the unknown population, all 23 did not receive services.

The number of referrals each subject had and the race of each subject was crosstabulated. Of the White population, 116 had only one referral, 23 had two referrals, four had three referrals, and one had four referrals. Of the Hispanic population, both subject had only one referral. Of the Black population, 14 only had one referral, two had two referrals, zero had three referrals, and one had four referrals. Of the Asian or

Pacific Islander population, the only subject had one referral. Of the not reported population, one subject had one referral, and one subject had two referrals.

Reasons for services not being received and the race of each subject were crosstabulated. Of the White population, 73 received services, 58 were unable to locate, and 13 refused to cooperate or be interviewed. Of the Hispanic population, both subjects received services. Of the Black population, seven received services, five were unable to locate, and four refused to cooperate or be interviewed. Of the Asian or Pacific Islander population, one was unable to locate. Of the not reported population, one received services and one refused to cooperate or be interviewed.

Whether or not services received and the number of referrals was crosstabulated. For those who did not receive services, 62 have one referral, 16 have two referrals, three had three referrals, and two had four referrals. For those who received services, 72 had one referral, ten had two referrals, and one had three referrals.

Several descriptives were run on the variable to get a better understanding of the population. The average subject was a 31 year old, White, married female. The

answer to the quantitative research question is no. According to the last crosstab run, the only two subjects to have four referrals did not receive services. Could there be a relationship? Maybe; however, there is not enough evidence to say that the single informational intervention helps to reduce the number of domestic violence referrals a subject has after receiving services.

Qualitative:

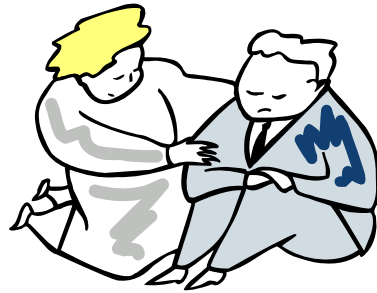
For this part of the research, three domestic violence service providers were interviewed concerning domestic violence services. The interviews were guided by five questions (Table 1). The interviews lasted on average about twenty minutes each and was audio recorded. All service providers interviewed were from different agencies.

Themes were compiled after transcribing each interview. Both similar and different themes were compiled. It was interesting to see that although the results of the quantitative piece showed that services are not effective, a similar theme was that victims are generally satisfied with the services they receive. A similar theme was also that the victims feel as if services are effective when used as they should be used. Other common themes included the need for more communication

between agencies and more involvement with DCBS. All three service providers stated that the majority of victims have a negative opinion of DCBS.

Different themes were also compiled upon transcribing the interviews. These themes included that victims are court mandated to get help, there are too many agencies telling a victim what to do, and victims expect workers to be judgmental. A surprising theme in this category was that some victims get back together and choose not to follow through with what they start. Other surprises included that there is always room for improvement, some victims received services because the abuse was starting to affect their children, and some victims come for services because of "money issues." The greatest surprise was that for the last question, there were three different answers. The last question was "In your opinion, what is the biggest need domestic violence victims have?" The answers were money, education, and the need to feel safe.

Through out the interviews some answers were corroborated from other interviews and some were completely different. It is interesting to note the different results from both the quantitative and the qualitative piece and compare opinions with mathematical results.



Domestic Violence Recidivism

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Purpose of the Quantitative Research

- To investigate the relationship between services received by domestic violence victims and continued domestic violence incidents
- Quantitative Question: "Is the single informational intervention effective at reducing DV recidivism?"



Purpose of the Qualitative Research



- To explore Domestic Violence service providers' perceptions on the usefulness of the single session services at decreasing recidivism
- Qualitative Question: "What reasons do Domestic Violence service providers have for Domestic Violence victims utilizing services or for not utilizing services?"



Importance to Social Work

- According to Crocoran, Stephenson, Perryman, and Allen (2001), there is a great need for domestic violence response teams that work side by side with law enforcement.
- Social workers are trained to do crisis intervention and encourage solutions.



Methods

- For the Quantitative research, a chart review was conducted.
- Descriptive analysis was completed on all variables.
- Crosstabs were completed on several variables where they could be completed.
- For the Qualitative research, interviews were conducted with domestic violence services providers concerning victims views on services.
- Themes were compiled from the interviews.



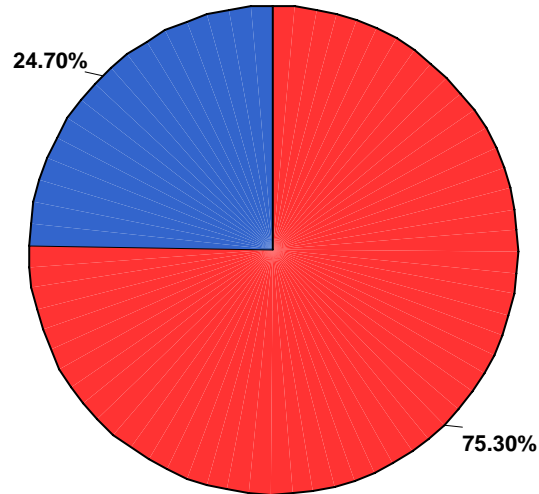
Variables

- Gender
- Were services received
- Age of the victim at the time of the first referral
- Marital status
- Source of the referral
- Reasons for not receiving services
- Results of the last referral
- Number of referrals
- Race of victim

Quantitative Analysis

■ Gender of Victims

Gender of victims



Gender of victim

Female

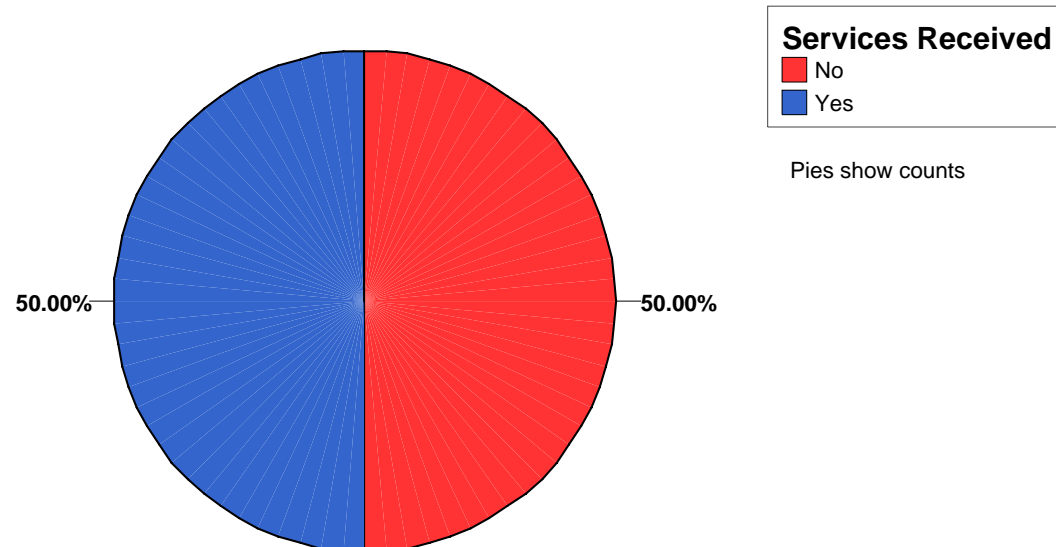
Male

Pies show counts

Quantitative Analysis

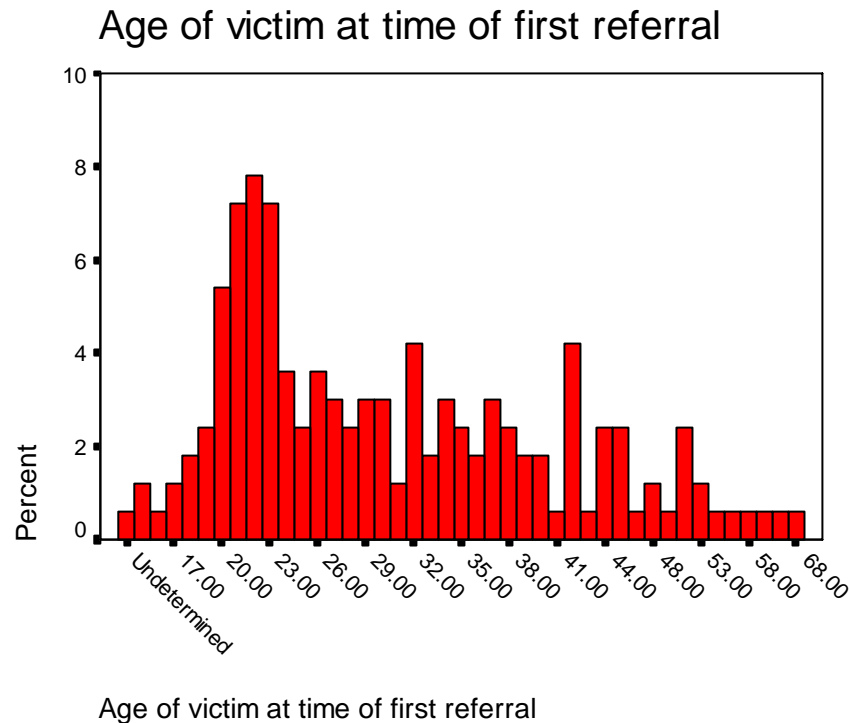
■ Services Received

Services Received



Quantitative Analysis

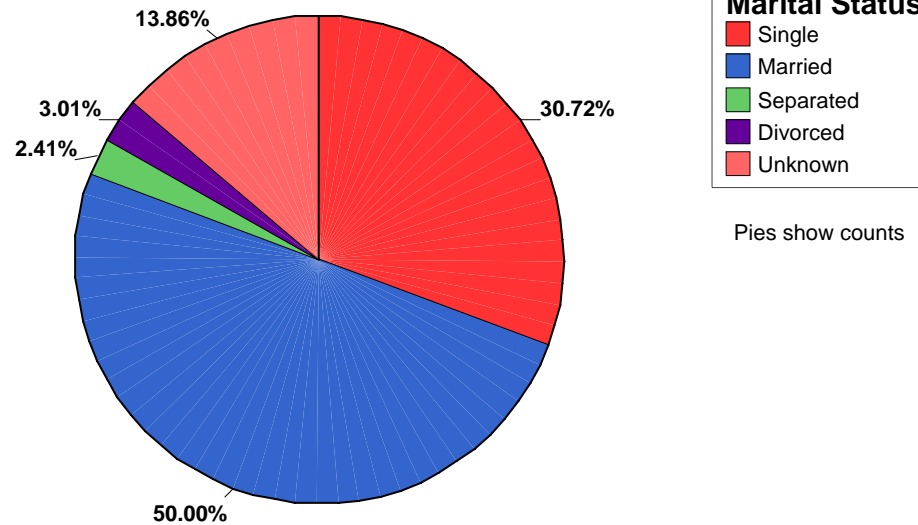
- Age of the Victim at Time of the First Referral



Quantitative Analysis

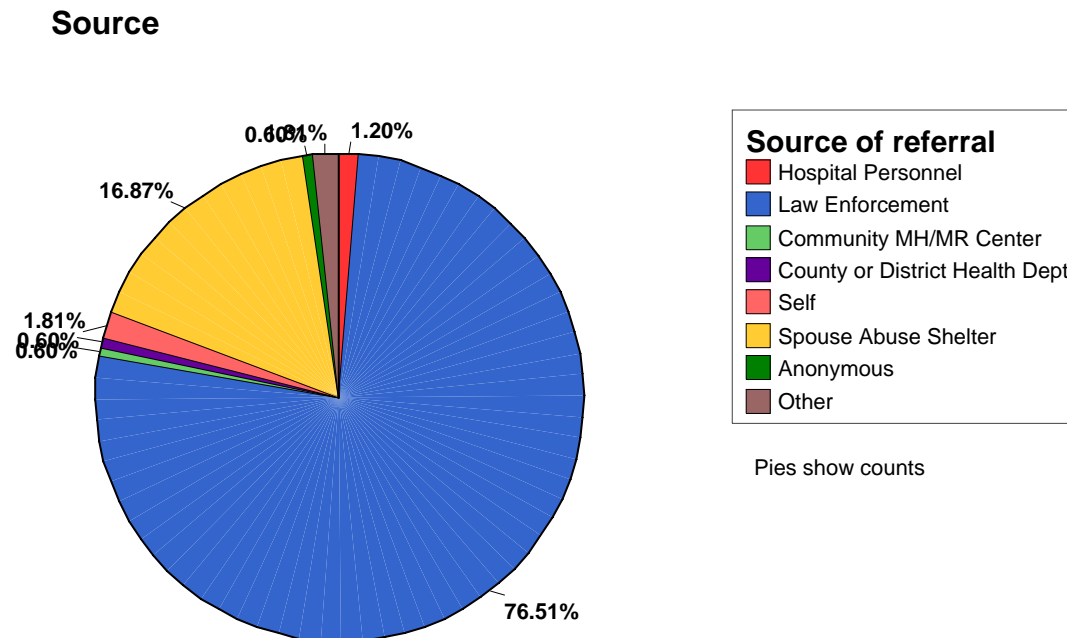
■ Marital Status of the Victim

Marital Status



Quantitative Analysis

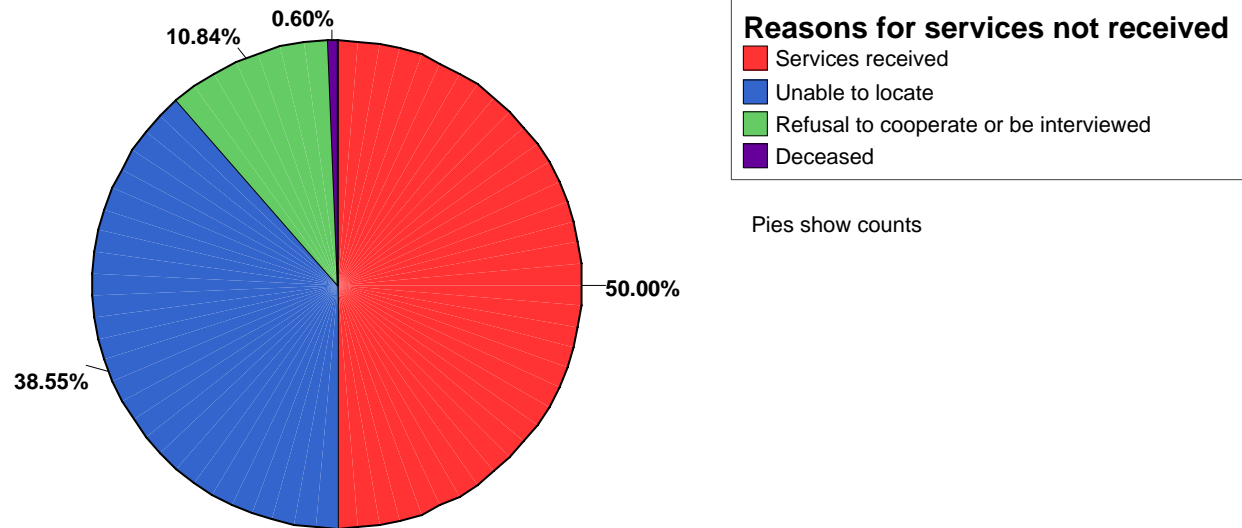
■ Source of the Referral



Quantitative Analysis

■ Reasons for Not Receiving Services

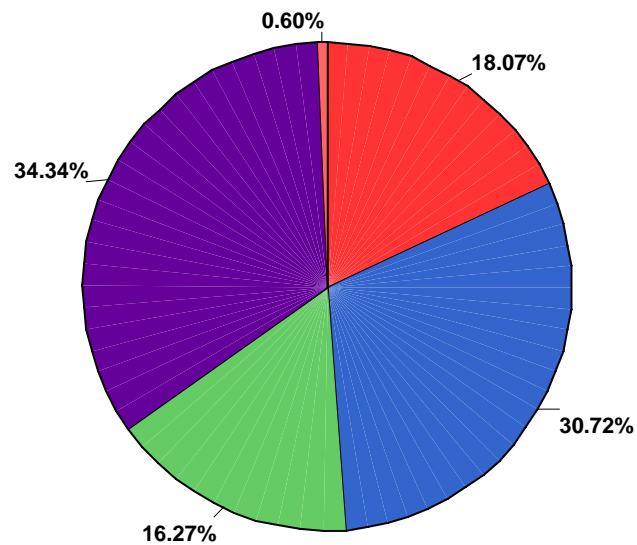
Reasons for Services Not Received



Quantitative Analysis

■ Results of the Last Referral

Results of last Referral



Results of the last referral

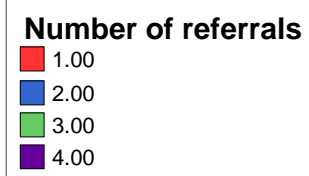
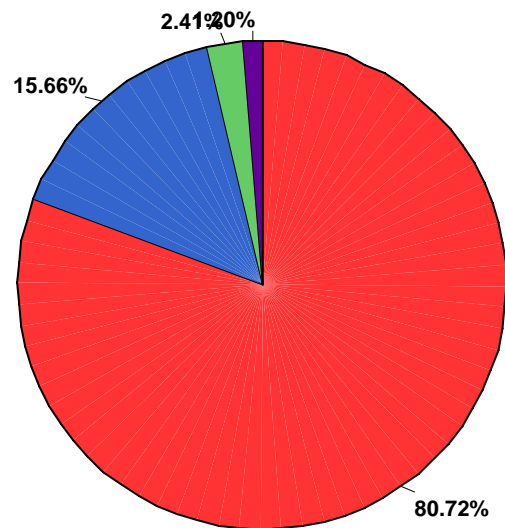
Unsubstantiated
Substantiated
Some indication
Found and substantiated
Unable to locate

Pies show counts

Quantitative Analysis

- Number of Referrals Received on Each Victim

Number of Referrals

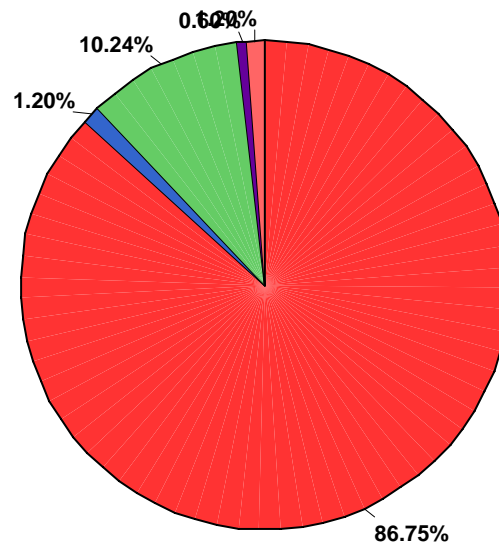


Pies show counts

Quantitative Analysis

■ Race of the Victims

Race



Pies show counts



Crosstabulation

■ Gender of Victim/Number of Referrals

Case Processing Summary

	Cases					
	Valid		Missing		Total	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
Gender of victim * Number of referrals	166	100.0%	0	.0%	166	100.0%

Gender of victim * Number of referrals Crosstabulation

Count

		Number of referrals				Total
		1.00	2.00	3.00	4.00	
Gender of victim	Female	98	21	4	2	125
	Male	36	5			41
Total		134	26	4	2	166



Crosstabulation

■ Gender of Victim/Reasons for Services Not received

Case Processing Summary

	Cases					
	Valid		Missing		Total	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
Gender of victim * Reasons for services not received	166	100.0%	0	.0%	166	100.0%

Gender of victim * Reasons for services not received Crosstabulation

Count

		Reasons for services not received				Total
		Services received	Unable to locate	Refusal to cooperate or be interviewed	Deceased	
Gender of victim	Female	65	44	16		125
	Male	18	20	2	1	41
Total		83	64	18	1	166



Crosstabulation

■ Gender of Victim/Results of the Last Referral

Case Processing Summary

	Cases					
	Valid		Missing		Total	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
Gender of victim * Results of the last referral	166	100.0%	0	.0%	166	100.0%

Gender of victim * Results of the last referral Crosstabulation

Count

		Results of the last referral					Total
		Unsubstantiated	Substantiated	Some indication	Found and substantiated	Unable to locate	
Gender of victim	Female	26	42	17	39	1	125
	Male	4	9	10	18		41
Total		30	51	27	57	1	166



Crosstabulation

■ Gender of Victim/Services Received

Case Processing Summary

	Cases					
	Valid		Missing		Total	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
Gender of victim * Services Received	166	100.0%	0	.0%	166	100.0%

Gender of victim * Services Received Crosstabulation

Count

		Services Received		Total
		No	Yes	
Gender of victim	Female	59	66	125
	Male	24	17	41
Total		83	83	166



Crosstabulation

■ Marital Status/Number of Referrals

Case Processing Summary

	Cases					
	Valid		Missing		Total	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
Marital Status * Number of referrals	166	100.0%	0	.0%	166	100.0%

Marital Status * Number of referrals Crosstabulation

Count

		Number of referrals				Total
		1.00	2.00	3.00	4.00	
Marital Status	Single	40	9	1	1	51
	Married	65	14	3	1	83
	Separated	4				4
	Divorced	5				5
	Unknown	20	3			23
Total		134	26	4	2	166



Crosstabulation

■ Marital Status/Reasons For Services Not Received

Case Processing Summary

	Cases					
	Valid		Missing		Total	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
Marital Status * Reasons for services not received	166	100.0%	0	.0%	166	100.0%

Marital Status * Reasons for services not received Crosstabulation

Count

		Reasons for services not received				Total
		Services received	Unable to locate	Refusal to cooperate or be interviewed	Deceased	
Marital Status	Single	37	8	6		51
	Married	39	34	9	1	83
	Separated	3	1			4
	Divorced	4	1			5
	Unknown		20	3		23
Total		83	64	18	1	166



Crosstabulation

■ Marital Status/Services Received

Case Processing Summary

	Cases					
	Valid		Missing		Total	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
Marital Status * Services Received	166	100.0%	0	.0%	166	100.0%

Marital Status * Services Received Crosstabulation

Count

		Services Received		Total
		No	Yes	
Marital Status	Single	14	37	51
	Married	44	39	83
	Separated	1	3	4
	Divorced	1	4	5
	Unknown	23		23
Total		83	83	166



Crosstabulation

■ Number of Referrals/Race of Victim

Case Processing Summary

	Cases					
	Valid		Missing		Total	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
Number of referrals * Race of victim	166	100.0%	0	.0%	166	100.0%

Number of referrals * Race of victim Crosstabulation

Count

		Race of victim					Total
		White	Hispanic	Black	Asian or Pacific Islander	Not reported	
Number of referrals	1.00	116	2	14	1	1	134
	2.00	23		2		1	26
	3.00	4					4
	4.00	1		1			2
Total		144	2	17	1	2	166



Crosstabulation

■ Reasons for Services Not Received/Race of Victim

Case Processing Summary

	Cases					
	Valid		Missing		Total	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
Reasons for services not received * Race of victim	166	100.0%	0	.0%	166	100.0%

Reasons for services not received * Race of victim Crosstabulation

Count		Race of victim					Total
		White	Hispanic	Black	Asian or Pacific Islander	Not reported	
Reasons for services not received	Services received	73	2	7		1	83
	Unable to locate	58		5	1		64
	Refusal to cooperate or be interviewed	13		4		1	18
	Deceased			1			1
Total		144	2	17	1	2	166



Crosstabulation

■ Services Received/Number of Referrals

Case Processing Summary

	Cases					
	Valid		Missing		Total	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
Services Received * Number of referrals	166	100.0%	0	.0%	166	100.0%

Services Received * Number of referrals Crosstabulation

Count		Number of referrals				Total
		1.00	2.00	3.00	4.00	
		62	16	3	2	83
Services Received	No					
	Yes	72	10	1		83
Total		134	26	4	2	166



Similar Themes

- Victims come for services because they have no other options.
- Victims feel that the service providers are not judgmental of them.
- Victims feel as if they can trust service providers.
- Victims have a negative opinion of DCBS (Social Services).
- DCBS needs to get more involved with DV
- Some victims do not leave the relationship because of lack of resources.



Similar Themes

- Victims are usually satisfied with the services they receive.
- Some victims do not come for help or do not come back for help because they are embarrassed.
- There are some agencies that seem to be one sided in a DV situation.
- Communication between all DV service agencies would improve.



Different Themes

- Sometimes victims do not actually see the provider.
- There are too many agencies telling a DV victim what needs to happen.
- Victims cannot get their lives back together because they are trying to please everyone.
- Victims expect providers to be judgmental
- Some victims do not know what services are out there.



Different Themes

- There needs to be more time spent with each victim.
- There is always room for improvement.
- Some victims receive services because the DV is starting to affect their children.
- Some victims come for services because of "money issues".
- Christian based counseling services are not always a good choice.



Different Themes

- The biggest need victims have is money.
- The biggest need victims have is to be safe.
- The biggest need victims have is education (both formal and on domestic violence).



Relevance

- Changing DV services in this area to be more effective
- Make more people aware of DV
- Show target areas for improvement



Strengths/Limitations

- Large sample size
- Demographic information
- Insufficient information on the victims
- Unanswered questions
- Insufficient research



Different Approaches

- Interviewed Domestic Violence Victims
- Spent more time reviewing charts
- Spent more time gathering research and information to support the quantitative analysis



Future Research

- What services are effective?
- Is there a relationship between different cultures and domestic violence?
- How to reduce domestic violence recidivism?